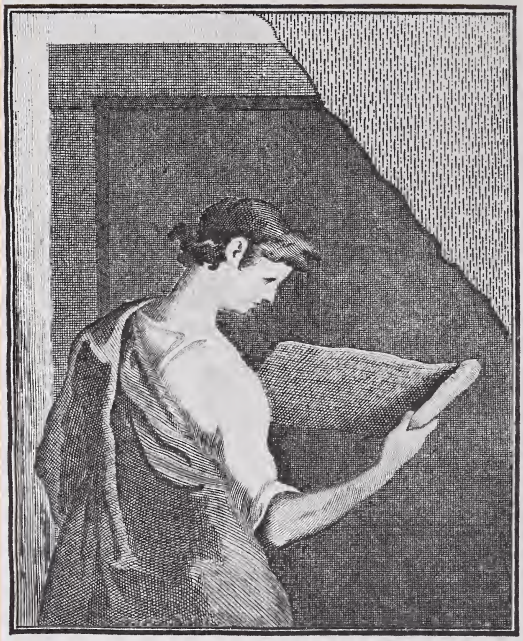
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FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

PAINTING, SCULPTURE, AND ARCHITECTURE

INSTITUTED 1826

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1838

EDINBURGH: THOMAS AND ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE

PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN, AND TO THE UNIVERSITY

1886

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LIBRARY

Council and Office-Bearers

OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 10TH NOVEMBER 1886.

Council.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE.

W. BEATTIE-BROWN, ESQ.	CLARK STANTON, ESQ.
J. SMART, ESQ.	J. M. BARCLAY, ESQ.
W. E. LOCKHART, ESQ.	GOURLAY STEELL, ESQ.

GEORGE HAY, ESQ., SECRETARY AND TRUSTEE.

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W. E. LOCKHART, ESQ.,
OTTO T. LEYDE, ESQ.,
ROBERT GIBB, ESQ., } VISITORS OF LIFE SCHOOL.

REPORT.

The Council of the Royal Scottish Academy for the year 1886 beg to report to the Annual General Assembly of Academicians as follows :—

I. The Sixtieth Exhibition was opened on Saturday the 13th of February, and was closed on Saturday the 22d of May. It contained 1136 Paintings in Oil and Water-Colour, and 31 works in Sculpture, selected out of a total of 2058 sent for exhibition.

II. The Annual Dinner took place in the Galleries, as usual, on the eve of the opening of the Exhibition, when the President and Council had the pleasure of receiving a large and distinguished company.

III. At the Annual General Meeting, held on 11th November 1885, David George Steell and William Grant Stevenson were elected to the rank of Associate of the Academy, to fill the vacancies caused by the election of Clark Stanton to the rank of Academician, and the death of Robert Anderson.

IV. At a General Meeting, held on 15th December, John

Mossman, Sculptor, Glasgow, was elected to the rank of Honorary Member of the Academy.[1]

V. At the Statutory Meeting of the Academicians, held on the 10th of February, J. L. Wingate and D. W. Stevenson were elected to the rank of Academician, to fill the vacancies caused by the death of J. A. Houston and E. T. Crawford. These elections, and the death of John Glass, have caused three vacancies in the rank of Associate, which will require to be filled up at the Meeting at which this Report is read.

VI. The following is the Report of the Librarian and the Curators of the Library :—

"The Books, Prints, Drawings, etc., in the Library are in good condition, and catalogued to this date.

"There has been a large increase in the attendance in the Library during the Session 1885-86.

"The Students have taken full advantage of the privilege they have of consulting the books, etc., in the Library.

"The following books, prints, etc., have been added to the Library :—

"The Douglas Book. By William Fraser, C.B., LL.D. In Four Volumes. Edinburgh, 1885. 4 vols. 4to.

Presented by The Earl of Home, *per* William Fraser, C.B., LL.D.

"A Catalogue of Engravings by William Miller, H.R.S.A., 1818 to 1871. By W. F. M. London, 1886. 4to.

Presented by William F. Miller, Esq.

"Costume in England ; a History of Dress to the End of the Eighteenth Century, by the late F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. Third Edition, enlarged and thoroughly revised by the Hon. H. A.

[1] A Letter from Mr. Mossman acknowledging his election will be found in the Appendix.

Dillon, F.S.A. Illustrated with above seven hundred engravings. London, 1885. 2 vols. 8vo.

"The Sylvan Year; Leaves from the Note-book of Raoul Dubois. By Philip Gilbert Hamerton. With twenty etchings by the Author and other Artists. London, 1876. 4to.

"Facsimile of an Ancient Heraldic Manuscript, emblazoned by Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount, Lyon King of Arms, 1542. Edited by David Laing, LL.D. Edinburgh, 1878. Folio.

"The Art of England. Lectures given in Oxford by John Ruskin, D.C.L., LL.D., during his second tenure of the Slade Professorship. Orpington, Kent, 1884. 8vo.

"The Storm-Cloud of the Nineteenth Century. Two Lectures delivered at the London Institution, February 4th and 11th, 1884, by John Ruskin. Orpington, Kent, 1884. 8vo.

"Roadside Songs of Tuscany, translated and illustrated by Francesca Alexander, and edited by John Ruskin, LL.D. Complete in ten parts, with twenty illustrations. Orpington, Kent, 1884. 4to.

"The King of the Golden River, or the Black Brothers; a Legend of Stiria. By John Ruskin, M.A. Illustrated by Richard Doyle. London, 1863. 8vo.

"Two Photogravure Artist's Proofs of 'The Queen's Favourite Dogs,' from pictures by Gourlay Steell, R.S.A. Executed by Her Majesty's desire.

Presented by Gourlay Steell, R.S.A.

(Signed) John Hutchison, *Librarian.*
William Beattie-Brown, *Curator.*
John Smart, *Curator.*"

VII. The Visitors of the Life School report as follows:—

"The Session of 1885-86 commenced on 2d November 1885, and ended on 25th June 1886, having 120 morning and 121 evening meetings. The aggregate morning attendance was 2355, or an average of 19 per morning, and 2374 was the aggregate evening attendance, being an average of 19 per evening.

"The Visitors have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the industry and good conduct of the students.

(Signed) J. M. Barclay, *Visitor.*
Robert Gibb, *Visitor.*
Otto Leyde, *Visitor.*
W. E. Lockhart, *Visitor.*"

The Council are sorry to report that the students' work in colour does not maintain the high standard reached in recent years. While they cannot but express their regret that the paintings are not so satisfactory as they could wish, they are glad to be able to speak in terms of approbation of several of the drawings, those more especially to which the prizes have been awarded, as in them is given evidence of more than ordinary artistic ability.

It is gratifying to find that the Stuart Prize has called forth a greater number of competitive works than last year, all of which, with marked individuality, indicate earnest effort after the qualities for which the prize was instituted.

The Council, after careful examination of the studies, etc., awarded the other prizes as follows:—

The Chalmers Bursary, . .		G. Denholm Armour.
For the best Drawing from the Life,		The late J. W. Lee.[1]
For the second best, . . .		William Milne.
Keith Prize, for the best Work of a Student in this year's Exhibition,	Equal,	G. Denholm Armour. Duddingston Herdman.

[1] The Council cannot refrain from expressing regret at the death of this student, which took place accidentally by drowning at his native town, Aberdeen, on the 29th of August. Mr. Lee went through the course of tuition in the School of Art there, and gained admission to the Academy's Life School only two years ago, in which he worked with great industry, making rapid and decided progress, and giving excellent promise of attaining proficiency and distinction in the future. His untimely loss is regretted by all who knew him.

Maclaine Watters Medal, . .	R. Haswell Donaldson.
Stuart Prize, ...	P. A. Hay.
Extra Prize for Modelling, . .	John S. Rhind.

The studies in Water-Colour from the Life by John Briggs were considered worthy of honourable mention, and the competition design by D. B. Waters for the Stuart Prize was highly commended.

VIII. The following additions have been made to the Academy's Collection of Works of Art, etc., during the past year :—

1. Bust of Thomas Duncan, R.S.A. (the original model), by Patrick Park, R.S.A.

Presented by His Widow, Mrs. T. Duncan.[1]

2. "St. Bernard's Well," by Mrs. Cumming.

3. "Dunkeld," by Mrs. Cumming.

4. "Hawthornden," by Mrs. Cumming.

The above three Works bequeathed by the late Miss Mary Ann Cumming of Tullses, Forfar, and Tullses Lodge, Cheltenham, daughter of the Artist.[1]

5. "Wreck of the Wood," Diploma Work of J. L. Wingate, R.S.A.

6. "Bust in Marble of a Scotch Peasant Girl," Diploma Work of D. W. Stevenson, R.S.A.

7. Portrait of William Brodie, R.S.A., by John Phillip, R.A.

Bequeathed by the late William Brodie, R.S.A.[1]*

8. Water-colour Drawing of Roslin Chapel, by G. W. Kemp, Architect.

Presented by W. Beattie-Brown, R.S.A.

9. "The Douglas Book," 4 vols. Privately printed.

Presented by the Earl of Home, *per* William Fraser, Esq., C.B., LL.D.

[1] See Letter in the Appendix.

* The portrait of the late Wm. Brodie, R.S.A., has been placed for the term of three years in the National Gallery in compliance with the desire of his representatives.

10. Catalogue Raisonné of William Miller's Engravings.

Presented by W. F. Miller, Esq., son of the Engraver.

11. Two Photogravure Artist's proofs of "The Queen's Favourite Dogs," from pictures by Gourlay Steell, R.S.A. Executed by Her Majesty's desire.

Presented by Gourlay Steell, R.S.A.

The thanks of the Council were duly transmitted to the respective donors.

IX. In accordance with the resolution of the Academy of 31st May, the Water-Colour Exhibition, intimated to be held during the summer and autumn months, was postponed.

X. The Council regret exceedingly having to report that the proposal of the Academy to have a Refreshment Room and a Retiring Room in the Academy building, in connection with the Annual Exhibition, cannot be carried out at present. It is hoped, however, that apartments for these purposes may soon be obtained.

XI. For many years consecutively it has been the painful duty of the Council to record the death of one or more Members of the Academy. They are glad, however, to be able to report that during the past year no losses have been sustained.

(Signed) W. FETTES DOUGLAS,
President.

Royal Scottish Academy,
10*th November* 1886.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

Letter from Mr. Mossman, acknowledging his election to the rank of Honorary Membership, 17th December 1885.

6 Queen's Terrace,
Glasgow, 17*th December* 1885.

Dear Mr. Hay, — I desire to express most fervently my thanks for the great honour done me in being elected by the Royal Scottish Academy an honorary member of that illustrious body of artists. The pleasure of being a member of the Academy is greatly enhanced by the kindly feeling exhibited towards me by my brother artists, and the graceful terms in which you have conveyed to me that distinguished honour.—I remain, Dear Mr. Hay, yours most faithfully,

JOHN MOSSMAN.

Letter from Mrs. Mary Duncan, of 22d March 1886, *presenting bust of her late husband, Thomas Duncan, A.R.A., R.S.A.*

Nile Grove, Morningside,
22*d March* 1886.

Gentlemen,—As I am shortly leaving Edinburgh to reside in the south of England, I have decided to ask your acceptance of the bust of my husband, the late Thomas Duncan, A.R.A., R.S.A. The bust is by Patrick Park. I and my family feeling that the Academy is the most suitable resting-place for it.—I am, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

MARY DUNCAN.

To the President and Council,
Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh.

Letter from Messrs. Lindsay, Howe, & Co., of 10th April 1886, intimating bequest by Miss Mary Ann Cumming of Tullses, Forfar, and Tullses Lodge, Cheltenham, of three Pictures.

32 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh,
10*th April* 1886.

Dear Sir,—We write to inform you that the late Miss Mary Ann Cumming of Tullses, in the County of Forfar, and of Tullses Lodge, Cheltenham, who died on 29th ult., has, in her settlements, directed her Trustees to deliver, free of legacy duty, to the Royal Scottish Academy three oil paintings of St. Bernard's Well, Hawthornden, and Dunkeld respectively. The paintings are lying here, having been just brought by us from Cheltenham, and we shall be glad to hear from you, at your convenience, regarding their disposal.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

LINDSAY, HOWE, & CO.

George Hay, Esq., *Sec.*,
Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh.

Letter from Sir James Gowans, Lord Dean of Guild, of 27th August 1886, intimating bequest by the late William Brodie, R.S.A., of his portrait painted by John Phillip, R.A.

West Meadows, Edinburgh,
27*th August* 1886.

Dear Sir William,—I beg to annex excerpt from the late Mr. Brodie's testament, and will feel greatly obliged by you taking such steps as are necessary to have the same carried out.

I do not know the form required, but you will be able to guide me. Pardon me giving you this trouble.—I am, dear Sir William, yours very faithfully,

JAMES GOWANS.

Sir W. Fettes Douglas, *P.*R.S.A.,
6 Lynedoch Place.

EXCERPT REFERRED TO.

I direct my Trustees, on the death of my wife, to give my portrait, painted by the late John Phillip, R.A., to the Royal Scottish Academy.

(Signed) Wm. Brodie.

At the Annual Meeting of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, held in the Library of Academy on Wednesday, the 10th of November 1886, the Office-bearers were elected, and the Council declared for the ensuing year, as follows :—

Council.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, President and Trustee.

CLARK STANTON, Esq.	D. W. STEVENSON, Esq.
J. M. BARCLAY, Esq.	WALLER H. PATON, Esq.
GOURLAY STEELL, Esq.	JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq.

GEORGE HAY, Esq., Secretary and Trustee.

J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., Treasurer and Trustee.

WILLIAM M'TAGGART, Esq., Trustee.

JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq., } Auditors.
W. E. LOCKHART, Esq., }

JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq., Librarian.

CLARK STANTON, Esq., } Curators of Library.
J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., }

J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., }
W. E. LOCKHART, Esq., } Visitors of the Life Academy.
OTTO T. LEYDE, Esq., }
W. D. M'KAY, Esq., }

NOTE.

At the same Meeting Messrs. Charles Martin Hardie, Arthur Melville, and James Hamilton were elected Associates of the Academy.

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